(SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b) Proposals for assistance from the National Renewal Fund (NRF) have been received from the Government of Gujarat. These will be processed and decided upon by the Empowered Authority on receipt of appopriate budget allocation.

ASSISTANCE FROM U.K. TO INDUSTRIALISTS IN PUNJAB

3154. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the UK proposes to give all help to Punjab industrialists in increasing trade between the two countries in regard to importing latest technology exploration of the possibility of joint ventures and establishment of contacts in Britain ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto ; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to the liberalisation and economic reforms in India, a large number of British companies are eager to invest in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP MENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b) In so far as Punjab is concerned, no specific assurance or proposals have been received from the U.K.

However, business delegations from a number of Indian States have visited U.K. in the recent past. It is reported that U.K. companies are willing to explore the possibilities of transfer of technologies, joint ventures, etc.

(c) Since the announcement of liberalisation and economic reforms in India (Aug. '91-Nov. '93), Government of India has granted 439 F.C. approvals with U.K. firms involving equity participation of Rs. 751.03 crores. The details of these approvals are as under :

Year	F.C. approvals		Investment approved (In Rs. Crores)
	Total	Fin.	
1991 (Aug.-Dec.)	97	29	24.67
1992	184	73	117.67
1993 (upto Nov.)	158	72	608.69

REFERENCE OF REHABILITATION INDUSTRIES CORPORATION TO BIFR

3155. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHAR-YA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether (here is a proposal to refer I he question of Rehabilitation Industries Corporation to BIFR ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Industries of small scale sector are outside the purview of BIFR : and

(c) what is the manner in which the question of the RIC be referred to the BIFR without providing adequate financial support to it for its sustenance in the interest of refugees who constitute its workforce ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPART MENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRI-